

**REMARKS**

Claims 23, 24, and 49 have been amended. Claims 23-26, 29-32, 34, 36-38, 40-44, and 46-50 are pending in the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the telephone Interview of June 19, 2008. During that interview, Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed claim amendments to overcome the rejections included in the Office Action mailed April 23, 2008. Applicant has incorporated the amendments approved by the Examiner into the claims and believes that the pending application is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 23-26, 29-32, 34, 36-38, 40-44, and 46-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, and 35 U.S.C. § 101. Independent claims 23, 24, and 49 have been amended as agreed with the Examiner during the Interview of June 19, 2008 to overcome these rejections. For example, claim 23 now recites "determining that an explosive or controlled substance is not present in the object when the relative atomic percentages of elements comprising the object are not substantially similar to the relative atomic percentages of elements associated with known explosives and controlled substances." Claims 24 and 49 now recite the limitation of "pulsing the neutron sources sequentially if it is determined that an explosive or controlled substance is present in the object."

In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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